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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Venezuela

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1. In April 1947 the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Venezuela instituted a campaign in preparation for the publication of a Marxist magazine to be called "El Comunista," a small 56-page magazine to be sold for .50 bolivares per copy, or 5 bolivares per year. The Central Committee assigned to the Federal District the distribution of 1,000 subscriptions, paid in advance, to raise funds. As an encouragement for distribution, the various zones of the Party were instructed that the magazines will be distributed to them at .40 bolivares a copy, and that they could retain the difference between this and the price for sale to the public.
2. In instructions to the various District Committees (Comites de Radio) of the Federal District in April 1947, the Regional Committee of Caracas acknowledged the weakness and stupidity of the policies being followed by the Accion Democratica and the present regime in Venezuela, resulting in a high cost of living, a housing problem, bad administration, the squandering of public funds, and other evils, but warned against the dangers of a military coup led by the Lopez Contreras faction. Because of the dangers of the latter movement the Party leaders are to instruct the masses in the need for supporting the present Junta and Accion Democratica, in spite of their failings and inconsistencies. According to the instructions, the Party has more to fear from a reactionary regime under Lopez Contreras, which would prevent the election of a President by democratic means, and would attempt to make the Communist movement illegal under urgings from the United States Department of State.
3. As the result of recommendations made at a National Youth Conference of the Communist Party held in Caracas on 2, 3, and 4 April, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee approved the establishment of a Communist Youth Group for young people between the ages of 14 and 25. The group is to be open to independents, the only requirement for joining being the signatures of two members of the Communist Youth or the Communist Party on the application of an individual. The organizational set-up authorized by the Communist Party follows closely its own, i.e., a National Committee, which will elect an Executive Committee, a Regional Committee for each state, Parochial or District Committees, and Precinct Committees. To assure direction and help from the Communist Party, the Secretary Generals in the various Committees of the Party will be honorary presidents of Communist Youth organizations within their jurisdiction, with the right to speak and vote and to preside at meetings when they so desire. The Political Bureau of the Communist Party authorized the constitution of a National Organizing Committee for Communist Youth, to

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be composed of:

Rodolfo Arguello
 Angel R. Garcia
 Pedro Izeguirre

Carlos del Vechio
 Pedro Luconas
 Maria Isabel Perez

Jose Toledo
 Leonoldo Rino
 Guillermo Garcia Ponce

4. Instructions by the Regional Committee of the Federal District in Caracas in April identified three men, Scott, Quintero, and Miguelena, as leaders of a divisionist group within the Party. The divisionist group considered the principal enemy to be Accion Democratica, thus endangering, according to the Regional Committee, the agreed Party line of anti-Imperialism, anti-CU. RI, and anti-Lopez Contreras. According to the Regional Committee, the divisionists are playing into the hands of the rightists, and encouraging splits in the labor front by fostering parallel syndicates. The divisionists have encouraged a series of syndicates belonging to the Mercedes Federation, and wish the Communist Party to withdraw its syndicates belonging to the Pelota Federation and join them with the Mercedes Federation. However, the true Party line is the unification of labor, and as such the Communist Party fosters syndicates within both federations, as well as its own independent groups. The Regional Committee has also attacked a Labor Charter (Carta de los Trabajadores), the fulfillment of which is the chief aim of the divisionists. Points in this charter attacked by the Communist Party include: the right of management to strike; the obligation of transport workers and others in public service to give 10 days notice of strike; the declaration of the illegality of a strike if the strikers attempt to control private property of the owners; a paid vacation of only 15 days for each year of uninterrupted work, and contradictions regarding stability of work. According to the Party, the Charter gives the impression of having been written by elements which are not exactly those defending "the sacred interests of the workers."

5. In April 1947 the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party was composed of the following:

Juan B. Fuemayor
 Gustavo Machado
 Luis Eniro Arrieta

Jose Martinez Pozo
 Eduardo Machado
 Pompeyo Marquez

Jesus Faria
 Eloy Torres
 Martin J. Ramirez

6. On the 18th of March, the Regional Committee of the Communist Party of the Federal District of Caracas was constituted as follows:

Secretary General:
 Secretariat:

Martin J. Ramirez C.
 Martin J. Ramirez C.
 Juan Pablo Crespo
 Federico Rondon
 Hipolito Gonzalez
 Anibal Giron
 Casimiro Estrada
 Juan Pablo Crespo
 Pedro Ortega Diaz
 Federico Rondon

Secretary of Organization:
 Secretary of Finance:
 Secretary of Propaganda:
 Syndical Secretary:
 Judicial Secretary:
 Secretary:

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